

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 01516 011235Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 /061 W  
-----011241Z 087047 /44

R 291130Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7209

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1516

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, GW,CE  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FOREIGN MINISTER,  
HANS DIETRICH GENSCHER, APRIL 23-25

1. ON THE WAY FROM INDIA TO INDONESIA, FOREIGN MINISTER  
GENSCHER AND PARTY MADE A BRIEF GOOD WILL STOPOVER IN  
COLOMBO, ARRIVING ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND DEPARTING ON  
MONDAY MORNING. EXCEPT FOR A TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH CEYLON  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THE VISIT WAS LARGELY CEREMONIAL,  
INCLUDING COURTESY CALLS ON THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME  
MINISTER AND THE LAYING OF A CORNERSTONE FOR THE NEW  
GERMANY CHANCERY.

2. ACCORDING TO A MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
(MDFA) OFFICER IN THE MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS  
GENSCHER TOUCHED GENERALLY ON A BROAD RANGE OF INTER-  
NATIONAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES. HE EXPLAINED EUROPEAN  
INITIATIVES IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AND EXPRESSED  
OPTIMISM THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED IN THE NORTH/  
SOUTH DIALOGUE AND ON A COMMON FUND. HE ALSO SAID  
THAT HE WAS SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS SINCE THE  
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HELSINKI AGREEMENT AND THAT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT  
THE OUTCOME OF THE BELGRADE MEETING LATER THIS YEAR.  
HE ALSO MADE A PLEA THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BE  
PATIENT AND GIVE PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION  
TIME TO FORMULATE ITS THINKING ON THE MYRIAD OF  
PROBLEMS IT IS FACING AND ASKED FOR SIMILAR CONSIDERA-  
TION FOR THE BRITISH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, SAYING

THAT HE IS CONVINCED THE BRITISH ARE SINCERELY  
SEEKING A PECEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. DESPITE  
THE HIGH-POWERED INDUSTRIAL GROUP TRAVELING WITH  
GENSCHER, THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF POSSIBILITIES  
FOR GERMAN PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN SRI LANKA.  
GENSCHER SAID, HOWEVER, THAT GERMAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE  
WOULD CONTINUE.

NEITHER BEFORE NOR AFTER THE VISIT DID MDFA  
OFFICIALS SEE THE GENSCHER VISIT FOR ANYTHING MORE  
THAN WHAT IT WAS, A PLEASANT WEEKEND STOPOVER BETWEEN  
TWO COUNTRIES MORE IMPORTANT TO GERMANY'S INTERESTS AND AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO REPAY MADAM BANDARANAIKE'S 1974 VISIT  
TO GERMANY.  
REED

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINISTERIAL VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977COLOMB01516  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2813545  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FOREIGN MINISTER, HANS DIETRICH GENSCHER, APRIL 23-25  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GE, CE, (GENSCHER, HANS DIETRICH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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